

- High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (Lockheed Martin);
- Maverick air-to-surface missiles (Raytheon); and
- In the pipeline: AVENGER, SLAMRAAM, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense missile system, known as THAAD.

The foundation for the UAE-US bilateral security relationship is the 1994 Defense Cooperation Agreement. The pact permits the United States to base troops and equipment within UAE federation borders. Jebel Ali port, in Dubai, is crucial to US naval operations, as it is the only harbor in the Gulf deep enough to berth an aircraft carrier.

The UAE deployed forces and/or provided assistance in:

- Afghanistan: The UAE's special forces are the only Arab personnel undertaking full-scale operations in the country.
- Iraq: The UAE provided logistical support for US troops in 2003 and continues to support nation-building there.
- 1990 Gulf War: The UAE was the first country to support the United States at the advent of the war.
- Somalia: In 1992 the UAE joined other countries, led by the US Central Command, to secure the environment and provide humanitarian relief.

The UAE provides ongoing and essential support for US forces in the region:

- Hosting more than 2,000 US military personnel.
- Providing critical logistics support for US Navy fleet operations; US Naval vessels visit more UAE ports than any other foreign ports in the world.
- Supporting US Air Force operations through critical logistics and facilities at Al Dhafra Air Base.
- Hosting the Joint Air Warfare Center and joint training exercises with US forces.

The UAE has frozen the accounts of known terrorists and enacted aggressive anti-money-laundering initiatives. New counter-terrorist financing laws and regulations have been introduced and enforced, and in 2005 the UAE committed to the International Convention on the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism. Dubai is the sixth largest port in the world for container traffic and the first Middle East entity to join the Container Security Initiative (CSI). In a multinational program to protect global trade from terrorism, CSI stations US Customs officers inside Dubai's ports. Dubai was the first Middle East entity to join the Department of Energy's Megaports Initiative, aimed at stopping illicit shipments of radioactive material. The UAE has committed to the International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and is a signatory to the Arab Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism.

## **US-UAE Economic Relationship**

On the economic front, the United States maintains a health trade surplus with the UAE, and the UAE is the largest importer of U.S. goods and services in the Middle East. In 2009, the UAE was the number one export market for the United States in the region and the 19th largest export market globally, ahead of Spain, Ireland and Indonesia. From 2000 to 2009 UAE imports of US goods increased more than five-fold from \$2.29 billion to \$12.1 billion. The UAE has announced that it is committed to doubling that amount over the next five years, in step with President Obama's call in his State of the Union Address this year to double overall